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How To Give The Gift Of Fine Jewelry

By Kerri Stalton

Fine jewelry is one of the most luxurious and exquisite gifts that you can give for a holiday or a

special occasion. However, picking out the perfect piece for a loved one isn't always easy. Everyone has their own unique tastes when it comes to fine jewelry, so choosing a piece that the recipient will wear often requires full knowledge of that person's style and preferences. The temptation is often to spend the most possible money, with the idea that the larger the precious stones the more beautiful the jewelry will be. However, more often than not, a smart choice is not always the most expensive item, but is the item that best suits the wardrobe and the eye of the person who you are shopping for.

If you are planning to purchase a piece of fine jewelry, it is a good idea to make time for several trips to more than one store so that you can have the time you need to compare prices and styles across several different vendors. Before you set off on your shopping trip, try to make a thorough examination of the kinds of jewelry your intended recipient already owns. This will keep you from making a redundant purchase, but more importantly it can give you a guide that will help you choose the perfect piece or set of fine jewelry. Make notes about what kind of stones are most prevalent in the existing set of jewelry. Although many women and men enjoy having a wide variety of stones, it is often a good idea to choose a piece that will match well with earrings, necklaces, and rings that person already owns. If you discover a jewelry box that is already filled with rubies, for example, you would probably do well to choose an item that includes rubies so the recipient can wear the item with matching pieces that are already a part of his or her regular jewelry repertoire. Also notice whether the person you are shopping for tends to prefer single large stones that make a bold statement, or whether his or her collection includes mostly items that combine many small stones for a more delicate and refined look.

If you are not terribly knowledgeable about jewelry styles in terms of modern versus classical settings, avant garde versus conservative pieces, or any of the other spectrums along which fine jewelry falls; pictures can provide a valuable tool in helping you make your purchase. Take simple snapshots or Polaroid photos of some of the recipient's favorite items, and bring them with you when you shop. A salesclerk with a trained eye will probably be able to glean important information from these pictures, and will then be able to steer you towards pieces of fine jewelry that are similar in terms of style. This can help you make sure that the money you spend on fine jewelry as a gift is money well spent, because the more specifically a piece suits the taste of the recipient, the more often he or she will be

likely to wear it.

Kerri Stalton is a featured writer for FineJewelryRUs. To learn more about fine jewelry, visit us at

<http://www.finejewelryrus.com/>

and

<http://www.finejewelryrus.com/customfinejewelry/>

Fine Jewelry: A Classic, Beautiful Gift

By Stephanie Foster

Want to see that special someone's eyes light up? Give jewelry for a present.

Fine jewelry can sound like an intimidating gift to give. There's so much to know, both about the person you're giving it to and the jewelry you are buying. You want to get good value for your money while finding something that will be worn regularly.

One trick is to look at what he or she wears regularly. Any favorite jewelry? Favorite colors? Trendy or conservative style? Any hobbies or interests? You want to focus on the things you already know.

Let's start with an example. You're a man buying a gift for his wife. Married 10 years, 2 kids. She wears very simple jewelry, mostly gold and diamonds. Here are a few suggestions:

- A 3–stone diamond pendant, earrings or ring. These are very popular right now.
- A mother's ring. While it's probably going to be more colorful than what she normally wears, a mother's ring is a beautiful way for her to celebrate being a mother.
- A right hand ring. These are diamond rings that are intended for the right hand. They're quite popular right now and available in a nice range of styles.

Here's another example. You've been dating a woman for a while, not ready to get engaged yet, but would like to buy her some jewelry. She's very trendy, loves to wear bright colors and seems to wear a different piece of jewelry every day.

- Dangling gemstone earrings. Pick the color based on what you think would look good on her. Briolettes are popular in dangling earrings right now. It's a cut of gemstone that looks quite lovely hanging down.
- A watch. Find a watch that suits her style. If she wears more delicate jewelry, one with a thinner strap is appropriate. If she prefers larger jewelry, she will probably prefer a larger watch.
- No rings! If you aren't ready to propose marriage, don't confuse things even with a gemstone ring. I've seen those get misinterpreted. Definitely, DEFINITELY do not buy a diamond ring if you aren't proposing.

How To Give The Gift Of Fine Jewelry

Guys, I'm not forgetting that women sometimes shop for you, so here goes. You want to get the man in your life some jewelry. Like most men, he tends to wear very little jewelry, and what he does is most often functional, like his watch and maybe one ring.

- A dress watch. Get him something for your more elegant evenings out.
- A heavy chain bracelet or necklace. Figaro links are quite popular with men. I suggest at least 5mm thick for most men.
- A birthstone ring. This really isn't as popular as the first two suggestions, but on the other hand it means it is less expected. It's a way to give a little color.

Fine jewelry is a gift meant to last a lifetime. While some people have a very hard time finding the perfect item to give, it doesn't have to be as impossible as some feel it might be. The look of delight you are likely to get should make the challenge of shopping worth the time.

Stephanie Foster spent six years working in a jewelry store, but has since changed her focus to running sites such as

<http://www.jewelstoremember.com/>

and helping people recognize the great

jewelry selection available online.



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